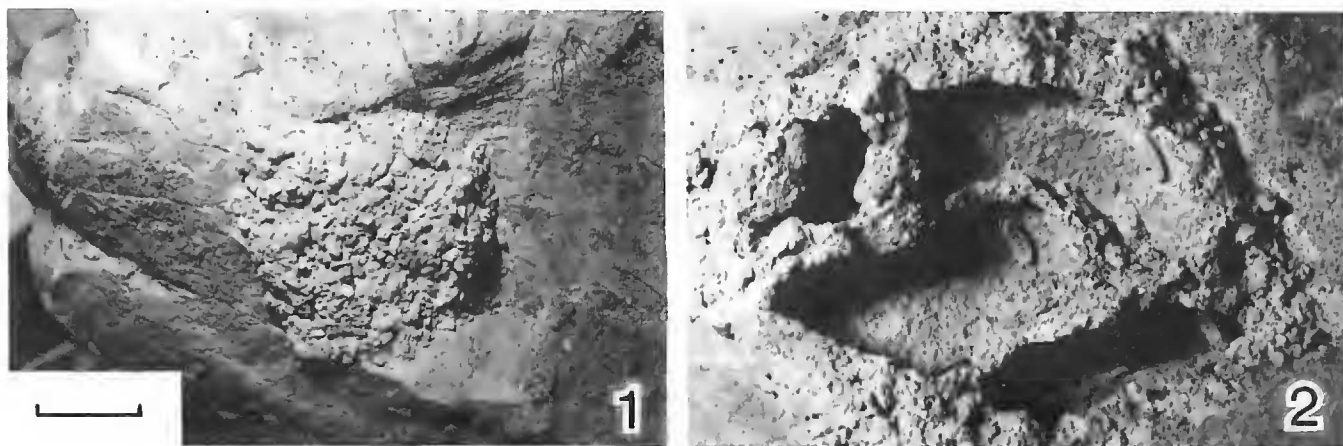


SCIENTIFIC NOTE

A NOTE ON THE BIOLOGY OF *ANCISTROCERUS WALDENII* *FLAVIDULUS* BEQUAERT (HYMENOPTERA: EUMENIDAE)

Ancistrocerus waldenii flavidulus Bequaert occurs in the Pacific Coastal regions of northern California and Oregon (Bequaert, 1943, Entomol. Am., 23:225-295). Previous biological information on *A. w. flavidulus* is based on two nests reported by O. W. Richards (1962, Pan-Pac. Entomol., 38:145-146) from Marin County, California. The nests were located within rock crevices and consisted of several cells plastered over with mud. Richards also reported that prey were larval Tortricidae (*Cnephasia* and *Archips*). The data presented here are based on a nest found on a west facing road cut at Shelter Cove, Humboldt County, California, on 21 May 1976. The mud nest (Fig. 1) was in a shallow depression in the slightly overhanging side of a protruding rock. The female wasp (identification confirmed by J. R. Carpenter) was plastering mud onto the nest surface when she was captured. The rock was brought into a field laboratory and the nest walls were removed. Three cells provisioned with caterpillars (identified by Dr. J. A. Powell) and a small empty cell in the upper left hand corner (Fig. 2) were exposed. Presumably the first cell constructed was at the bottom and the last at the top. The uppermost provisioned cell contained two larvae of *Chionodes* sp. (Gelechiidae) and 9 of *Cnephasia* sp. (Tortricidae). The wasp egg (about 2 mm long) was suspended by a silk thread from the upper side of the cell near the presumed inner end. The middle cell contained 9 larvae of *Cnephasia* sp. and six undetermined small dark caterpillars. A small chrysidid wasp larva and a shriveled host wasp egg were also present. The bottom cell had 12 larvae of *Cnephasia* sp., a slightly larger chrysidid larva, and a



Figs. 1, 2. Laboratory photographs of mud nest of *Ancistrocerus waldenii flavidulus*. Fig. 1. Nest on side of rock, scale equals 1 cm. Fig. 2. Nest with outer wall removed to expose the cells, scale equals 0.5 cm.

shriveled wasp egg. The egg in the uppermost cell failed to develop, but the chrysidid larvae were successfully reared to the adult stage within gelatin capsules supplied with some of the caterpillars. Dr. R. M. Bohart identified the chrysidids as *Chrysis coerulans* Fabricius. *Chrysis coerulans* is a common widespread enemy of many eumenid wasps, but this is the first record of it from *A. w. flavidulus*.

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SCIENTIFIC NOTE

ADDITIONAL RECORDS OF *THYMELICUS LINEOLA* (OCHSENHEIMER) IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (LEPIDOPTERA: HESPERIIDAE)

Burns (1966, Can. Entomol., 98:859–866) summarized the currently known distribution of *Thymelicus lineola* (Ochsenheimer) in North America. This Palearctic species was first found in North America in 1910. Since its first introduction at London, Ontario, it has spread to much of temperate eastern North America.

The only western North American population was collected at Terrace, British Columbia in 1960. Since then repeated efforts by resident collectors to find this species, especially at Smithers, British Columbia, have failed.

This last summer D. Threatful sent me a series of eleven males of *T. lineola* from 2 miles east of Sicamous, British Columbia, collected June 19, 1980. I encouraged him to return to the locale where on July 12 he observed “several hundred specimens” of both sexes. Further collecting on July 12 showed that the species was present in ever decreasing numbers east from Sicamous to Solsqua, Cambie, Malakwa, Craigellachie, Taft, and Three Valley. At Revelstoke, where Mr. Threatful lives, the species has not been seen. When Mr. Threatful last collected at Sicamous in 1970 he did not observe this species.

Thus it would appear that this hay and pasture lands pest is well established in western North America and can be expected to eventually spread over a wide area.

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